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BY HAND DELIVERY

William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: GN Docket No. 96-245
In the Matter of The Merger of
MCI Communications Corporation and
British Telecommunications plc**

Dear Mr. Caton:

BT and MCI hereby respond to the "reply comments" filed by the Irish American Unity Conference ("IAUC") in the captioned proceeding, which purport to link the BT-MCI merger Application with the political situation in Northern Ireland.

The IAUC filing is irrelevant to the Commission's consideration of the Application, and many of the factual errors and misstatements of law contained in the reply comments have been addressed by the Application or the Opposition and Reply.

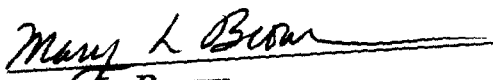
BT and MCI do wish to emphasize that each company conducts its business in full compliance with applicable US and UK law and cooperates with US and UK law enforcement authorities as permitted or required by law. Further, as noted in the Opposition and Reply, BT and MCI are working with the Department

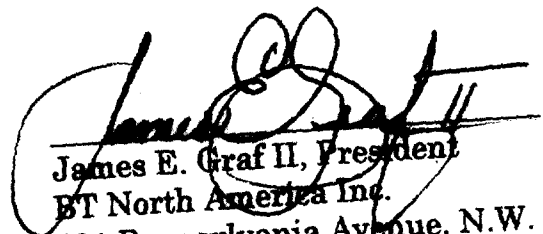
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William F. Caton
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of Defense, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other interested departments and agencies of the US government to address and satisfy any and all proper interests and concerns of national security and law enforcement as may be presented by the merger.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kathy Bates, a legal secretary with the law firm of Hogan & Hartson L.L.P., hereby certify that on this 17th day of March, 1997, a copy of the foregoing letter was delivered to the parties listed below.


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